

Application No.: 10/811,524
Docket No. HSJ920040003US1/(HGST075-0544)
Date of Response: May 29, 2007
Reply to Office Action Dated February 26, 2007

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action of February 26, 2007, Claims 1, 4-7, 9, 13-15, 17 and 21 have been amended and claims 3 and 11 have been canceled. Claims 1-2, 4-10 and 12-21 are pending. Reconsideration of the claims in view of the remarks provided herein below and withdrawal of the present rejections are respectfully requested.

In paragraph 1 on page 2 of the Office Action, the disclosure was objected to because of the dependencies of claims 15 and 21.

Applicants respectfully traverse the objection, but in the interest of expediting prosecution have amended the claims to correct the dependencies.

In paragraph 3 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 9 and 10 were rejected under § 102(e) as being anticipated by Carey et al.

In paragraph 4 on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 16 and 17 were rejected under § 102(e) as being anticipated by Pinarbasi.

In paragraph 6 on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 8, 16 and 17 were rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith et al. and Official Notice regarding a cap layer.

In paragraph 7 on page 4 of the Office Action, claims 3-7, 11-15 and 18-21 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection, but in the interest of expediting prosecution have amended claims 1, 9 and 17 to include the limitations recited in allowable claims 3 and 11.

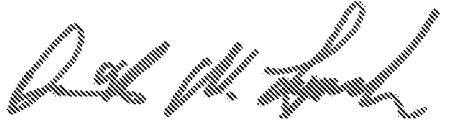
On the basis of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of this application and its allowance are requested.

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If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Attorney for Applicant, David W. Lynch, at 423-757-0264.

Respectfully submitted,

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